

1 **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1 1. A universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels comprising:

3 (a) at least one base having a first end and a second end, the
4 base having sufficient structure for removably engaging
5 only one of a demountable wall partition and a demountable
6 ceiling panel, and

7 (b) a plurality of arms extending from the base such that two
8 arms and the base define a channel for receiving one of the
9 demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling
10 panel,

11 such that the universal stud can be oriented vertically to
12 accept a demountable wall partition, or, can be oriented
13 horizontally to receive at least one of the demountable wall
14 partition and the demountable ceiling panel.

1 2. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 1 wherein the plurality of arms
3 comprises

4 (a) a first arm extending from the first end of the base,

5 (b) a second arm extending from the second end of the base,

6 (c) a third arm extending from the base closer to the first arm than the
7 second arm,

8 (d) a fourth arm extending from the base closer to the second arm than
9 the first arm and between the third arm and the second arm, such that

10 (e) an exterior channel is defined by the first arm, the third arm and the
11 base therebetween,

12 (f) an interior channel is defined by the third arm, the fourth arm and
13 the base therebetween,

14 (g) an inner channel is defined by the fourth arm and the second arm,

15 whereby the channels receive and removeably secure at least one of the
16 demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling panel between the
17 channels.

1 3. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 2 further comprising

3 (a) a second base having a first end and a second end, the base
4 having sufficient structure for removably engaging at least
5 one of the demountable wall partition and the demountable
6 ceiling panel, with the second end of the second base fixedly
7 secured to the second end of the first base at a predefined
8 angle,

9 (b) a plurality of arms extending from the second base, the
10 plurality of arms comprising

11 (1) a first arm extending from the first end of the base,

12 (2) a second arm extending from the second end of the
13 base,

14 (3) a third arm extending from the base closer to the first
15 arm than the second arm,

16 (4) a fourth arm extending from the base closer to the
17 second arm than the first arm and between the third
18 arm and the second arm, such that

19 (5) an exterior channel is defined by the first arm, the
20 third arm and the base therebetween

21 (6) an interior channel is defined by the third arm, the
22 fourth arm and the base therebetween

23 (7) an inner channel is defined by the fourth arm and the
24 second arm

25 whereby the channels receive and removeably secure at least one of the
26 demountable wall partition and the demountable ceiling panel between the
27 channels.

1 4. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 1 further comprising means for
3 removably securing the stud to the partition.

1 5. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 1 wherein the means for
3 removably securing the stud to the partition adapted to be selected from the
4 group consisting of screws, nails, removable pins, adhesive, releasable adhesive,
5 caulk and straps.

1 6. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 4 wherein one demountable wall
3 partition or demountable ceiling panel is used.

1 7. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 4 wherein two demountable wall
3 partitions or demountable ceiling panels are used such that a space is created
4 therebetween.

1 8. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 4 wherein three demountable wall
3 partitions or demountable ceiling panels are used such that a space is created
4 therebetween.

1 9. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 7 wherein two demountable wall
3 partitions or demountable ceiling panels are used with additional materials
4 disposed in the space therebetween.

1 10. The universal stud for use with demountable wall partitions and
2 demountable ceiling panels as defined in claim 8 wherein three demountable wall
3 partitions or demountable ceiling panels are used with additional materials
4 d i s p o s e d i n t h e s p a c e s therebetween.

1 11. A universal stud for use with demountable ceiling panels
2 comprising:

3 (a) at least one base having a first end and a second end, the
4 base having structure for removably engaging only one of a
5 single demountable ceiling panel, and

6 (b) a plurality of arms extending from the base such that two
7 arms and the base define a channel for receiving the
8 demountable ceiling panel, such that the universal stud can
9 be oriented horizontally to receive the single demountable
10 ceiling panel.